

ANNOYER IS FREED BY MRS. HARRISON

Wife of Former Chicago Mayor Unwilling to Prosecute Miss Valera Klensky.

SUSPECT RELATES HER STORY

Lonely and Wanted to Talk to Some One Whose Picture Is In the Papers.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Imbued with the Yuletide spirit, Mrs. Carter H. Harrison last night saved Valera Klensky, 17-year-old "poison tongue" suspect, from spending a sorrowful Christmas in a cell.

The girl was arrested in the afternoon while she was talking to Miss Edith Harrison over the telephone. Inasmuch as Miss Harrison has been the victim of the "poison phone" many times in recent months, the police had expected there would be prosecution, but Mrs. Harrison requested that the girl be released, if she would promise never to call Miss Harrison again.

Following recent annoyances to which Miss Harrison had been subjected the telephone company made arrangements to check up on all telephone calls to the Harrison residence on Sheridan road.

Miss Harrison had made arrangements to hold a conversation with anyone whom she did not know who might call.

Gets Call on Phone.

Yesterday afternoon an operator at the Canal exchange reported that 4840 was calling Lakeside 1400, the Harrison number. The connection was made while the chief operator flashed the information to Lieutenant A. M. White of the Sheffield avenue station. He lost no time in reporting the call to the Blum street station and Detective Sergeant James Lyman was assigned to the case.

Lyman went to the office of Attorney Vincent G. Ponc, 1208 South Ashland avenue, in whose name the Canal number was listed. He arrived in time to hear the girl asking Miss Harrison about the costume she wore at the Spanish ball held recently at the first Regimental armory. She hung up the telephone receiver as soon as the policeman entered the office.

"To whom were you talking?" demanded the detective. "Miss Edith Harrison, daughter of the former mayor," Valera replied without hesitation. "I called her up to ask her what Santa Claus was going to bring her."

Takes Girl to Station.

Sergeant Lyman then took the girl to the Sheffield avenue station, where she was questioned by Lieutenant White.

The girl said she was employed as a teller in the private bank of Ponc & Kozinski and that becoming lonesome during a lull in her work she went into Attorney Ponc's private office and called up Miss Harrison.

"It is the first time I have ever called her," asserted the suspect. "I saw her picture in the newspapers several days ago and, knowing that she would probably get lots of nice presents, I thought I would call her up and ask her about them."

Says She Meant No Harm.

"I certainly meant to do her no harm. When she showed an inclination to talk about other things I was happy to have some one like that to talk to."

The police asked Mrs. Harrison if she or her daughter wished to prosecute. At first they were undecided. It was said Miss Klensky's voice was similar to that of the person who had annoyed Mrs. Harrison on several other occasions. Later Mrs. Harrison made the request for release on probation.

Approves Pardon.

"I believe that Mrs. Harrison made no mistake in allowing Valera to go home for Christmas eve," said Mr. Ponc, one of the girl's employers. "I am convinced she had no malicious intentions when she called up Miss Harrison. She is simply an impulsive, immature individual who thought she had discovered a means of driving away a few minutes of lonesomeness."

All the news all the time—The Argus.

STUART, "THE MALE PATTI"—AT THE EMPIRE



Theater

AT THE ILLINOIS.

Ethel Barrymore will be seen at the Illinois theatre today in "The Nightingale," a film version of one of her most successful dramas. She is assisted by the original all-star New York cast. The play itself is an absorbing one and promises to be the leading feature of the week's screen presentations. In concluding the special Christmas program the management announces a two-reel comedy with laughs guaranteed.

"The picture of a baby—a quite delightful little youngster—was flashed upon the screen. He was a September-born baby—almost—and he got hold of father's pipe, ate flowers, wallowed around making mud pies and finally distinguished—rather extinguished—himself with jam from head to foot. The audience smiled, it chuckled and laughed, it rocked around until the whole theatre was in convulsions except that little one-year-old baby." All this and much more praise was voiced by the Binghamton Republican-Herald and scores of other newspapers concerning that inimitable film entitled, "Our Baby," as shown in Lyman H. Howe's Travel Festival a year or so ago. So, in deference to innumerable and insistent requests, Mr. Howe has arranged for that same baby to play a return engagement here at the Illinois theatre on Sunday and Monday. True, everything else on the program will be entirely new from the sublimely beautiful scenes of both California expositions and a trip through the Panama canal to quaint Bruges in Belgium.

AT THE EMPIRE.

Stuart, known everywhere in the world of amusement as "The Male Patti," is to be the big attraction at the Empire theatre for the first half of next week beginning Sunday afternoon. He entertains in a distinctly different manner and the critic of Vaudeville, one of the country's leading amusement publications, in a review said: "This entertainer has an act that is unique in that it has distinct merit outside of the novelty of a man appearing as a woman. He has built up a series of impersonations, the most of which are foreign artists, so sure, but they are vivid and are true to life. Stuart wears some smashing gowns, has a voice of pure soprano quality which has been cultivated and which he handles with splendid effect. His voice is even better now than it was in the early days when he starred in '1492,' the world's fair play." Dudley Trio is said to carry the biggest scenic athletic novelty to be found anywhere in vaudeville. Their offering, "In the Moonlight," brings to the Empire one of the newer and better acts of this type. The boys do a series of daring stunts in a most mysterious manner. Valdo and company, in a remarkable illusion act, "Mystery and Flowers," will be one of the features of the bill. In the course of his engagement here he

throws bushels of costly flowers into the audience. Edna Moore, Gladys Pettibone, Raymond Tracy and Raymond Bell comprise the Packard Four, billed as "12 cylinders of high-speed melody, mirth and terpsichore." Miller and Rayner will appear as "comic oddities." They sing, dance, talk and play saxophones, making altogether one of the most pleasing comedy-melodic combinations ever heard here. Manager Berkell booked this show personally out of a list of 25 or 30 of the most desirable acts.

AT THE MAJESTIC.

There is no denying that the Majestic, beginning tonight and extending for eight days, has a wonderful week of motion pictures ahead of it. Tonight, Pauline Frederick, one of the most wonderful women of stage or screen, appears in "Zaza" and Sunday William Faversham comes in "One Million Dollars." No need to wonder who these stars are. They are established players of the artistic stage world. On Monday and Tuesday William S. Hart in a great western play, "The Disciple," comes personally directed by Thomas Ince in a production that is thrilling from start to finish. Also there will be a great Keystone comedy in connection, "Saved by Wireless," with Chester Conklin, the funny little fellow. This is the biggest comedy containing the most spectacular events ever staged by Mack Sennett and those who have always enjoyed Keystone will not want to miss this funny creation. On Wednesday and Thursday D. W. Griffith, the creator of "The Birth of a Nation," will present "Martyrs of the Alamo," a big story dealing with the history of Texas. The dramatic events are vivid and have that wonderful appeal that characterized "The Birth of a Nation." In addition, there will be a big Keystone comedy.

These triangular programs are surely money's worth. There are from 10 to 12 reels of the most artistic in photoplay being produced in the country today. Mary Pickford will be here Friday in "The Girl of Yesterday" and on New Year's day Marie Doro, the little Frohman star, will be seen in "The White Pearl."

The programs at the Majestic are growing in strength and their selection and class again forcibly indicate the powerful booking affiliations of this theatre.

AT THE COLUMBIA.

When the Columbia booked Weber's Melody Phiends and four other big time acts it took a plunge in the best there is in vaudeville. Quite a number of vaudeville theatres believe in booking a cheaper show for the holidays, thinking that the people will come to their theatre regardless of what kind of a show they have. Not so with Manager Blanchard. He figures that when playing to capacity business that his best advertisement is to have his patrons go out boosting the show. The bill that opens tomorrow is one of the most expensive he has played this season, he states. In Weber's Melody Phiends there are 11 people in the act, each one being a

The Heartiest Greetings
to the
Thousands of Our Patrons

THE spirit of the season prompts us to express appreciation of the good will bestowed on us during the past year.

May the Christmas Tide
Bear You the
Highest Level of Your Desires

FAMOUS FOR COATS AND SUITS

Lundt & Co

THE BIG STORE, ON THE BROADWALK

solist on his or her instrument. The variety of music offered will please all classes of people. Brooks and Bawen, "Two Dark Spots of Joy," will bring to the Columbia an act that has been a riot all over the big circuit. The boys are real laugh producers of the funniest type and seldom take less than five bows for their efforts. James Grady & Company will present a comedy sketch entitled "The Toll Bridge." It is an act consisting of three people and special scenery. Louise De Fogel, who styles herself "A small bunch of melody and grace," will be seen for the first time in the tri-cities, as she comes direct from the east. Wilson and Aubrey will open the show with a comedy featuring match and bar act. The comedians are of the old school and know just what to do to get the most laughs. The Great Lester will appear the last half of the week and share headline honors with Doree's Beaux and Boies, an act with seven people who are among the best in offering a high class musical act. It has been learned that most of the stunts planned for carnival night have been worked out and that little remains for the manager to do except a few touches the night before the town goes dry.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

ILLINOIS THEATRE

HOME OF THE BIG FEATURES. PRESENTS

Any Seat, 15c. **ETHEL BARRYMORE** Any Seat, 15c.

Children, 10c. Great American Dramatic Star, in

THE NIGHTINGALE

Also Other Good Pictures, Including a Two-Reel Rip-Roaring Comedy. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 26 and 27.

the return of the Moving Picture Master, and Greatest Achievement in the Picture World.

LYMAN H. HOWE'S

TRAVEL FESTIVAL

TO THE CALIFORNIA EXPOSITIONS

THROUGH THE PANAMA CANAL

HOLLAND BELGIUM

PARIS PARKS MANY OTHERS

At the Illinois Sunday and Monday, December 26 and 27, Matinee and Night Reservations now being made for all performances.

Prices: Matinee, 25c, 35c, 50c. Reserved: Children under 12, 15c, all parts of house. Gallery, 25c.

Night: Reserved, 35c, 50c; Gallery, 25c.

MAJESTIC

This Christmas finds The Majestic better equipped than ever to give its patrons full measure. Triangle, Paramount and Metro spell the best that can be had.

TONIGHT
HOME OF THE PARAMOUNT
PAULINE FREDERICK in "ZAZA"
A Photoplay Masterpiece

SUNDAY
WILLIAM FAVERSHAM in
"ONE MILLION DOLLARS"

Watch announcements for the great Triangle and Paramount masterpieces for next week.

We wish our friends a merry Christmas

COLUMBIA THEATRE

BEAUTIFUL

SUPREME VAUDEVILLE

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SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY

Big Holiday Shows

First Half Week

Weber's Melody Phiends

THE MUSICAL WONDER WORKERS

BROOKS & BAWEN—Two Dark Spots of Joy.

LOUISE DE FOGEL—A Small Bunch of Melody and Grace.

JAMES GRADY & CO.—Comedy Sketch, "The Toll Bridge."

OTHER BIG FEATURES

We're Doing a Rushing Business for

CARNIVAL NIGHT

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EMPIRE

ROCK ISLAND
Phone R. 1, 708.
Charles Berkell, Mgr.

Two Shows Tonight

7:30 and 9:15
We Wish Everybody in the World

A Merry Christmas

THREE SHOWS TOMORROW

8:00, 7:30 and 9:15

SUNDAY

Stuart "The Male Patti"

BEST THEATRE

The Pearl of the Antilles
Featuring Tom Terriss with an all star cast; also
Married on Credit
(Billie Ritchie) comedy
SUNDAY
Nat Goodwin
In a remarkable film version of his greatest stage success, Business is Business, in six acts.
Matinee Christmas and Sunday.